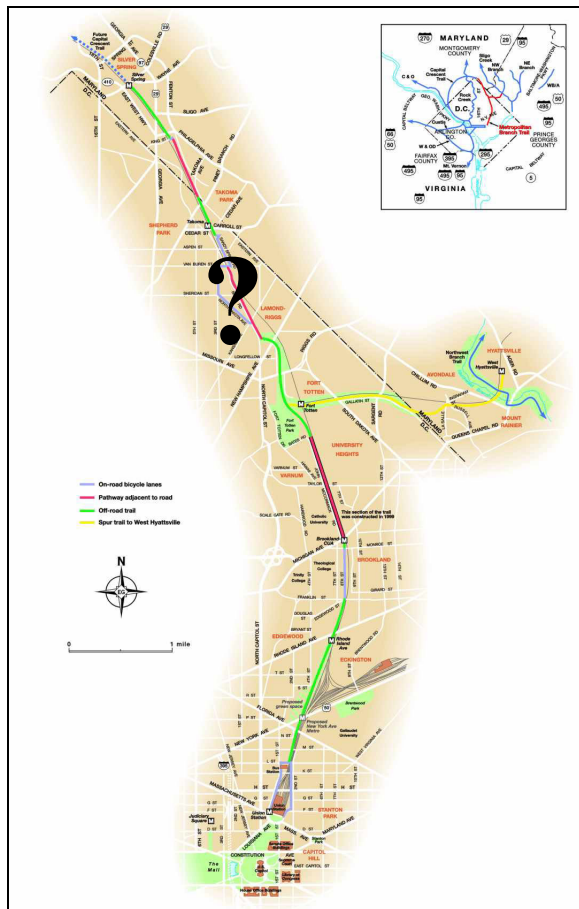


1 INTRODUCTION

The Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT) is a proposed bicycle and pedestrian trail that will extend from Union Station in Downtown, Washington, DC to Silver Spring, Maryland with a connector trail between Fort Totten in the District of Columbia and West Hyattsville, Maryland. The MBT will be a hybrid trail—part off-street mixed use trail, part sidepath, and part on-street bicycle lanes with adjacent sidewalks—with a total length of approximately 10 miles (see photos 1, 2, and 3 for samples of these types). The MBT will connect to the Capital Crescent Trail in Silver Spring, MD forming a “Bicycle Beltway” around the District. The connecting trail from the Fort Totten Metro Station to West Hyattsville would provide access to the Sligo Creek Trail, the Northwest Branch Trail, and the Northeast Branch Trail. Near Union Station, the MBT would connect with the National Mall Trail.

The MBT would provide residents of the District of Columbia, as well as Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties with an alternative mode of transportation along this corridor. The trail has been planned to intersect with eight Metro Stations and primarily will parallel the Red Line and a small section of the Green Line.



Proposed trail locations from Union Station to Silver Spring area still to be determined under the question mark.